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Minutes of the proceedings of the Board of War

Commenced

March 11th 1779

And also Copies of the several letters on the business of said Board

N. In General Assembly February 25th 1779

Voted and Resolved that the Governor and Council be and are hereby appointed a Board of War with full power to raise any number of men that shall by them be thought necessary for the defence of the frontiers and to make any necessary Preparations for the opening Campaign any four of whom shall be a Quorum.

A true Copy from the minutes.

M. Lyon Clerk.

Arlington March 11th 1779

Board of War met at the House of his Excellency Thomas Chittenden Esq.

Members present

His Excellency Thom Chittenden Esqr.
Honorable Joseph Booker Esq.
Honorable Timothy Brownson Esqr.
Honorable Jonas Fay Esqr.
Honorable Moses Robinson Esq.
Honorable Ira Allen Esq.

and made choice of Matthew Lyon Secretary of the Board of War

Arlington March 11th 1779

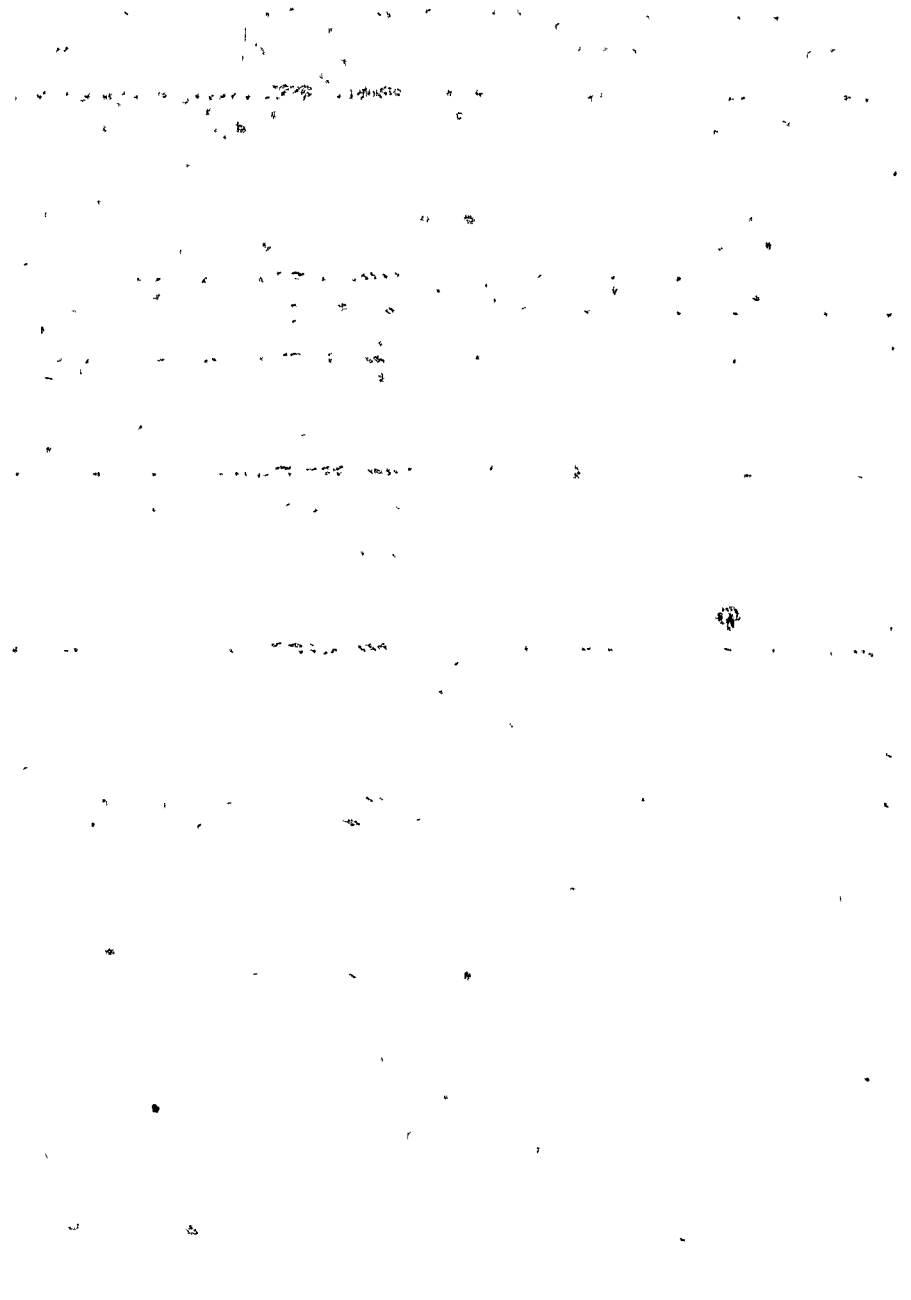
Resolved that the Capt. General issue an order to Col. Gideon Warner Commanding him to call forth one hundred men properly officered of the militia of this Regiment forthwith on the reception of this, and to hold them in constant readiness at a minutes warning to march for the defence of the frontiers Inhabitant of this State whenever he shall receive intelligence from Capt. Brownson or other officer commanding

2 the post at Rutland that the Lake Champlain is clear of Ice and that their pay commence three days before they march

Arlington March 12th. 1779

Whereas this State is a frontier to the Northern Enemy it is therefore necessary that some lines should be ascertained where this State will attempt to defend the Inhabitants.

Therefore Resolved that the north line of Castleton the west and north lines of Pittsford to the foot of the Green Mountains be and is hereby Established a line between the Inhabitants of this State and the Enemy, and all the Inhabitants of this State ~~and the Enemy~~ living to the north of said line are directed and ordered to immediately move with their families and Effects within said Lines. This Board on the Petition of the Inhabitants do also recommend the Inhabitants of Castleton and Pittsford to immediately erect a Picket fort near the Centre of the Inhabitants of each Town and that the women and children (excepting a few near the fort) move to some convenient place south and that the men with such part of their stocks as may be necessary remain on their farms and work in collective bodies with their arms



War office April 2d. at Arlington 1779

This Board having taken into their consideration the present defenceless situation of the frontier inhabitants of this State, and the dangers they must be immediately exposed to on the breaking up of the Lakes, have and do hereby resolve, that one hundred men exclusive of Commissioned officers be immediately raised and officered in the several Regiments in this State hereafter named, for the immediate defence of the Frontiers thereof, who are to continue in service sixty days including the day they march unless sooner discharged and that their pay commence two days before such March

	Capt.	1st Lieut	noncommissioned officers and privates
That Col. Samuel Herrick furnish for the above purpose	"	1	35
That Col. Samuel Fletcher furnish	"	1 2d	35
That Col. Joel Marsh do	"	1	30
	1	3	100

Resolved that the order to Col. Gideon Warren of the 11th of March last be forthwith countermanded, and that the Captain General be directed by this Board to issue his order requiring Col. Warren to raise one Captain one 2d Lieutenant and fifty non-commissioned officers and soldiers of his Regiment immediately and to hold them in constant readiness to march on the shortest notice for the defence of the frontiers whenever he shall receive intelligence from the officer commanding the post at Pittsford that the Lake is clear of Ice and that their pay commence two days before they march and to continue in service sixty days including the day they march unless sooner discharged ⇒

War Office Shaftsbury May 13th 1779

Resolved, that fifty able bodied effective men non commissioned officers and soldiers properly officered be forthwith raised of the Militia of the County of Bennington to serve forty days from the day they march in guarding the northern frontiers of said County and protecting its inhabitants from the incursions of the Enemy, unless sooner discharged. And Col.o Herrick furnish for the above purpose

Capt. Lt. Ensign
1 — 1 — 25

and Colo. Warren furnish for do — 1 — 1 — 25

Resolved that the Captain General be and he is hereby directed to issue his orders to the above named Colonels for the above purpose.

Resolved, that the Captain General be and he is hereby directed to issue a Commission to Doctor Jacob Babcock dated 6th May 1779 to continue in force untill the 10th of July next unless sooner discharged. [illegible]

Board of War Windsor 5th June 1779

Resolved that one hundred and fifty men officers included of the militia of this State be raised immediately to serve as a guard at the post at Rutland and the frontiers of this State to continue in service two months from the day they march unless sooner discharged and their pay to commence two days before they march and that they be taken from the several regiments in the following proportion (viz)

	Capt.	Lt.	Ens.	Serj.	R. & file	
Col. Fletcher	1	1	1	4	33	40
Col. Herrick	1	1	1	2	31	35
Col. Marsh	1	0	1	3	30	35
Col. Warren	1	0	0	2	22	25
Col. Olcott	0	1	0	1	13	15
	3	3	3	12	129	150.

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Board of War Arlington 29th July 1779

Two Letters from Captn. Thomas Sawyer commanding the post at Rutland dated 26th & 27th instant request assistance in Guarding the frontier inhabitants of this State and a Letter and Petition from the Inhabitants of sd. Rutland of the 27th. instant of the same purport was read.

Whereupon Resolved. that fifty able bodied effective Men be immediately enlisted as Volunteers to serve in guarding the frontier inhabitants of this State and to continue in service until the sixteenth day of November next unless sooner discharged. and that each such man be allowed Eighty pounds Bounty (thirty on entering the service and fifty when discharged) and three pounds pr. Month in addition to the Continental pay.

Resolved that the above fifty men be commanded by one Captain and two Lieuts. and that the Capt. be allowed in addition to the Continental Pay and for recruiting money the sum of three hundred pounds, and that each Lieut. be allowed for the above purpose two hundred pounds and that they receive each one hundred pounds on his engaging, and the remainder on their being discharged

[illegible] p 83

Board of War Arlington 30th July 1779.

Sir.

In consequence of repeated applications this Board by the distressed inhabitants of the Northern frontiers, and the present attempts of our Enemy to distroy them.

You are hereby required to raise as many Volunteers as you can within your Regiment immediately properly officered, well armed and accoutred with six days provision each and hold them in readiness to join Colo. Sam.l Herrick with a part of his Regiment, and to March with him to Lake Champlain to secure, or destroy the Wheat now standing contiguous to sd. Lake, and to follow such other orders and directions as you shall receive from time to time from this Board or Colo. Herrick - Provisions will be sent you afterward for your supply - and ammunition

By order of the Board

Jonas Fay Secy. P. T.

Colo. Gideon Warren

Similar orders were issued to Colo. Herrick at the same time for the same purpose

Entry - p 37.

Entries - p. 35.

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Board of War Arlington 30th. July 1779

Resolved that Twenty six able bodied effective men of the Militia of this State be raised, properly officered and marched to the post at Rutland by the 15th day of August next, to take be on that day delivered to the Commanding Officer of that post to continue in service two months unless sooner discharged.

That Colo. Fletcher furnish for the above purpose — — — Privates 6

Colo. Herrick — — —

Arlington 30th July 1779

Gentlemen.

The Board of War having taken into consideration the important matters contained in yours of yesterday, together with representations they had previously received from the Inhabitants of the frontiers, and by Mr. Jay who is present, have come to the following resolutions (viz) that Colo. Sam. Herrick be required to raise as many volunteers as he and the principal Officers of his Regiment shall judge necessary for defeating the diabolical designs of the present encroachments of the Enemy on the Northern frontiers, and to either secure or destroy the Grain now on the Ground near Lake Champlain, and that the s.d expedition be carried into execution with the utmost secrecy and dispatch.

Resolved that ~~Capt.~~ Colo. Gideon Warren be required forthwith to raise as many volunteers as possible within his Regiment to join Colo. Herrick's, and act in conjunction with him in executing the above resolution,

The necessary orders are issued to the Officers of the Militia to carry the above resolves into Execution, relying on your engagements to furnish them with every necessary supply for that purpose

I am Gentlemen with sentiments of Esteem

your obt. humble servant

Thomas Chittenden.

Mr. Isaac Tichenor

& others

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In General Assembly Manchester 20th October 1779

Resolved to chuse by ballot nine persons for a Board of War when the following persons were chosen according (viz) his Excellency Thomas Chittenden Esqr. Ira Allen Esqr. Joseph Brocker Esqr. Capt. Ebenezer Allen Joseph Bradley Esqr. Saml. Fletcher Esqr. Majr. Benjamin Wait Capt. Jonathan Fayett and Timothy Brownson Esqr.

In General Assembly Manchester 21st October 1779

His Excellency Thomas Chittenden Esqr. Requested leave to be Excused serving in the Board of War. Resolved that he be excused and another chose in his room whom Samuel Robinson Esqr. was chosen by ballot

Extract from the minutes

Copy. R. Hopkins. Clerk.

In General Assembly, Manchester 21st October 1779

Resolved that the members of the Board of War be and are hereby Impowered to meet and appoint their President and Secretary which President shall have power to call together the members of the Sd. Board with the advice of one or more of the members and their Secretary shall keep Records of their proceedings and they shall have power to examine into the necessity of the Defence of the frontiers and Recommend to the Captain General the raising any number of men (said Board to appoint their Officers) For any time not Exceeding nine months as they shall think proper and also the calling out the Militia in such number and proportion as they shall think necessary and if necessity call for it, to procure Provision as well as men and to store a sufficient Quantity for the year ensuing in order to

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supply the soldiers in our frontiers in case that by any means the Continental Commissaries neglect to supply the garrison there; and shall have power to draw on the Treasurer for the money to supply the said Commissary

Extract from the minutes
R. Hopkins Clerk

Copy

Manchester October 27th 1779

Brard of War met Present Timothy Brownson Esqr Joseph Booker Esqr Samuel Robinson Esqr Majr Benjamin Wait Captn Ebenr Allen Saml Fletcher Esqr & Ira Allen Esqr

Proceeded to the choise of a President & Secretary

1st Made choise of Timothy Brownson Esqr President

2d Made Choise of Ira Allen Esqr Secretary.

Members Present were sworn to the faithfull discharge of their office.

Resolved to raise by Enlistment Twenty able bodied effective men to enter service at fort Ranger the fifteenth day of November next and to continue in service five months unless sooner discharged.

Resolved that Lieutenant Benjamin Everst take the command of sd men and have liberty to appoint two Sergeants two p Corporals and one Drummer.

Resolved that said Lieutenant Have Sixty Pounds pr. month That each serjeant have twenty five pounds p. month. That each Corporal and Drum have twenty two pounds ten shillings pr. month That each soldier have twenty pounds per month.

Resolved, That each Noncommissioned officer and soldier have twenty pounds bounty Paid them when they engage.

Resolved That this board stands adjourned without day

Ira Allen Secy.

In Board of War Manchester 27th October 1779

Sir.

I am directed to transmit to you the foregoing resolves and to recommend to your Excellency to carry the same into Execution

To His Excellency Thomas Chittenden Esqr { pr. order Ira Allen Secy.

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